# THE VOLUNTEER TIMES

# Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities

#### Our Mission:

To recruit, train and retain healthcare professionals and medical support staff volunteers who will be able to contribute their skills and expertise in response to a natural or man-made disaster or public health emergency.

Visit our new website, complete your application online and give us your feedback.

www.sumtercountymrc.org

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# What's New?



Of Sumter County 8015 E. CR 466, The Villages

Your MRC Unit has been very busy this year. As you know, this unit has undergone a reorganization. This was necessary in order for us to comply with the National & Regional MRC and the Florida Department of Health volunteer policies. As many of you know, our application process through orientation was not efficient. There was lag time due to the IS100b. and IS700a., scheduling fingerprints, CPR, orientation and badges. In addition, when we audited the volunteer's file for compliance, we discovered that many had documentation missing.

#### Consequently:

- We have revised the application process so that a **recruit** will receive a packet fully explaining the application process, the training required prior to application, and a form they will sign and return to the office stating they wish to apply as a Deployable or Non-Deployable member of SCMRC.
- Once we have received the IS100b. and IS700a. Completion Certificates, we will give the **applicant** a packet containing an MRC application, a schedule for CPR, fingerprints, and orientation, as well as the SCMRC handbook.
- At orientation the applicant will receive the required Florida Department of Health in Sumter County & National MRC training for MRC Core Competencies, HIPAA, Ethics, Sexual Harassment, Violence in the Workplace and Equal Opportunity. The **volunteer** will then receive their badges and shirts, as well as a job description for their role in the Special Needs Shelter (SpNS), Point of Dispensing (POD), or Office Administration.

It is our intention that after orientation the new volunteer will be in compliance with all needed documentation, and training for a year, after which they will be required to do a brief annual review of their prior trainings.

- We also updated the <u>SCMRC Handbook</u> to include the SCMRC requirements, and the written policies for the five required trainings.

These projects were completed due to the many hours that **Connie and Steve Accurso**, and **Paula Brody** spent researching and formatting.

## **MONTHLY TRAINING** 3rd Wednesday

MRC Office CPR Infection Control Bloodborne Pathogens IS100b. IS700a. HIPAA **Ethics** 

#### **VACCINATIONS**

MRC Office No Cost to Volunteers

> PPD **TDAP** FLU

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for

May

June

- \* Instructors \* Badging
- Office assistance (we will train you)

As a result of the reorganization and revisions, you will be receiving (by snail mail):

- a letter explaining the purpose of the enclosed forms
- the Documentation Checklist used by Office Administration to verify Volunteer file requirements
- the Volunteer Information Update and Compliance Agreement
- a self-addressed, stamped envelope to send copies of the needed documents

We look forward to your understanding the necessity of this and your timely response. I have attached to this email, a training schedule for your convenience. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

SCMRC is not the only organization being revamped this year. You may have noticed that **Servf.com** has not been accessible this past month. The reason is that the state of Florida is merging the three emergency responder data bases into one. When completed, all responders will register with, and be notified by the Florida Responder Notification Management System (FRNMS). That is where your profile will reside.

There are many ways that SCMRC can assist our county. Before we do so, it is important that we are proficient in carrying out our primary missions: Special Needs Shelters (SpNS) and Points of Dispensing (PODs).

Since the last Newsletter was in January here is a brief recap of the past few months:

January - General Staff Meeting: Sheltering Overview

February - SPIN Triage; IS100b. & IS700a. training

March - NACCHO Summit attended by Program Director. Attendees were MRC and Disaster Preparedness Planners throughout the nation. I learned a lot about the need for a Psychological First Aid Team (PSA), and the differences between "functional" and "special" needs pertaining to sheltering. These have been incorporated into our training programs.

April - Many thanks to Frank Waitrovich and Carole DeWolf for researching and helping to start our PSA training.

- The Hurricane Expo was a tremendous success. Many of our volunteers were at our table explaining SCMRC and SpNS to the public.

- Lee Meacham attended Volunteer Responder Training at Tampa USF.

- 1/3 of our members attended a presentation on Shelter Operations and Management, by Denise Heady with a tour of the SpNS, and an explanation of ESF6 and ESF8 by Walter Thomas.

Shelter teams have been set up, and volunteers assigned roles based on education and/or experience. You will soon be receiving an email listing your role with an accompanying job action sheet outlining your roles responsibilities and duties. Please look it over, making sure you understand and are comfortable with the descriptions. In addition; I need to know your seasonal availability, email me what months you are here.

Again, there is an inappropriate word somewhere in this newsletter, worth a Publix \$10 gift card to the first person to email me the inappropriate word.